

## Message Text

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ACTION SIL-01

INFO OCT-01 EA-12 ISO-00 ABF-01 MMO-04 CIAE-00 COME-00  
EB-08 INR-07 LAB-04 NSAE-00 OIC-02 /040 W  
-----053731 271147Z /23  
P 270900Z JAN 78  
FM AMEMBASSY MANILA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0941

UNCLAS MANILA 1477

FOR DALE GOODS/IL FROM LINDAHL

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: ELAB, RP  
SUBJ: LABOR ATTACHE CONFERENCE

REF: STATE 017660

1. I SUGGEST THAT WE TRY TO IMPROVE ON THE EXCELLENT  
CONFERENCE IN 1976 BY ADDING AS MUCH OF THE FOLLOWING AS IS  
POSSIBLE. A MEMBER OF THE SENATE AND OF THE HOUSE OF  
REPRESENTATIVES PREFERABLY SELECTED FROM THE JOINT ECONOMIC  
COMMITTEE, SHOULD BE INVITED TO PARTICIPATE IN A DISCUSSION  
OF QUESTIONS SUCH AS 3-4-7-8-9-10 BELOW. ALSO SOMEONE FROM  
THE AFL-CIO RESEARCH DEPARTMENT AND SOMEONE FROM THE  
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE SHOULD BE THE PRO AND CON ON THE  
TRADE ACT OF 1974 AND PROVIDE ANSWERS TO THE QUESTIONS  
3-7-8 BELOW. THE WHOLE QUESTION OF IMPLEMENTATION OF  
HUMAN RIGHTS AND EEO OVERSEAS SHOULD BE DISCUSSED; PARTICU-  
LARLY QUESTION 6 BELOW. HAZEL HENDERSON, CO-DIRECTOR OF  
THE INDEPENDENT PRINCETON CENTER FOR ALTERNATIVE FUTURES  
INC., SHOULD BE INVITED TO TALK TO US ABOUT "ECONOMISTS  
WHO LOOK BACKWARD CANNOT HELP US TO GO FORWARD" AND  
QUESTION 4 BELOW. INTERDEPENDENCE OR NOT, IT IS  
STILL A FACT THAT WHEN THE US ECONOMY HAS A HEAD COLD THE  
REST OF THE WORLD HAS PNEUMONIA. SOME OF THE ISSUES THAT  
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AFFECT ASIA AND ITS WORKERS THAT SHOULD BE DISCUSSED AT  
THE LABOR ATTACHE CONFERENCE IN NEW DELHI ARE:

2. FOR YEARS WE HAVE MAINTAINED THAT FREE TRADE UNIONS  
ARE THE CAULDRON FROM WHICH DEMOCRACY WILL FLOW AND BE  
SUSTAINED. CAN WE MAKE AN ASSESSMENT OF THE POST WORLD  
WAR II RESULTS OF THAT IDEA IN ASIA? WHAT IS THE POLITICAL,

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL ROLE OF ORGANIZED LABOR IN ASIA? WHAT NEEDS TO BE DONE AND WHAT CAN BE DONE TO MAKE ASIAN LABOR UNIONS MORE RESPONSIVE TO THE NEEDS OF WORKERS?

3. BECAUSE THE INDUSTRIALIZED NATIONS OF THE WORLD TOLERATE FLAGS OF CONVENIENCE SHIPS, MORE AND MORE SUPER TANKERS ARE MANNED BY UNQUALIFIED CREWS. WHAT APPEARS TO BE A GREAT SAVING IN COST OF OPERATING SHIPS HAS BECOME AN ALARMINGLY HIGH COST TO WORLD ENVIRONMENT THAT FORCES ALL GOVERNMENTS TO SPEND TAX MONEY TO COPE WITH THE INJURED ENVIRONMENT . THUS FLAGS OF CONVENIENCE SHIPS BECOME THE MOST EXPENSIVE AND DANGEROUS ON THE HIGH SEAS. ASIAN WORKERS ALL TOO OFTEN BECOME THE CREWS FOR THESE SHIPS AT SUBSTANDARD WAGES AND CONDITIONS. CAN WE HAVE AN ASSESSMENT OF THE POLITICAL SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC IMPACT OF FLAGS OF CONVENIENCE SHIPS?

4. ECONOMISTS CONTINUE TO INSIST ON TRYING TO MANIPULATE AGGREGATE ECONOMIC SUPPLY AND DEMAND BY USING AN OBSOLETE SMALL KIT OF MONETARY AND FISCAL TOOLS. SUCH EFFORTS ARE DOOMED TO DEFEAT. ASIAN ECONOMISTS SELL THE IDEA TO THEIR POLITICANS THAT BARE SUBSISTANCE WAGES LIMIT INFLATION. CAN WE HAVE A DISCUSSION ABOUT WHAT IS VALUABLE ON A GLOBAL SCALE IN A TIME OF DRASTICALLY CHANGING, UNBALANCED CONDITIONS?

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5. SINCE OUR DEPARTURE FROM SOUTH VIETNAM, OUR MILITARY WITHDRAWAL FROM THAILAND AND OUR PROPOSED TROOP WITHDRAWAL FROM KOREA, HOW ARE WE MAKING OUT WITH THE IDEA THAT THE US INTENDS TO STAY IN ASIA?

6. WHAT HAS BEEN THE EFFECT OF THE HUMAN RIGHTS EMPHASIS IN OUR FOREIGN POLICY ON OUR FRIENDS AND FOES?

7. WE KNOW WHAT THE US GOVERNMENT IS DOING WITH THE TRADE ACT OF 1974 AND OPIC TO ENCOURAGE FREER TRADE. BUT WHAT IS HAPPENING TO WORKERS WHO ARE GRANTED ADJUSTMENT ASSISTANCE FOR LOSING THEIR JOBS TO IMPORTS? DO THESE WORKERS GET NEW JOBS OR HAS THE PROGRAM BECOME JUST ANOTHER WELFARE PROGRAM? HOW MANY WORKERS RECEIVE RETRAINING UNDER THE ACT? WHAT HAS HAPPENED TO THOSE WORKERS WHO APPLY FOR ASSISTANCE UNDER THE ACT BUT ARE DENIED? WHAT IS THE MEDIAN AND AVERAGE AGE OF THOSE APPLYING FOR ASSISTANCE?

8. WHAT IS THE US GOVERNMENT DOING TO ENCOURAGE US EXPORTS? HOW MANY NEW US JOBS HAVE BEEN CREATED BY THE TRADE ACT OF 1974? HOW MANY HAVE BEEN LOST?

9. IT HAS BEEN REPORTED THAT 25 PCT. OF US PRODUCTIVE  
POTENTIAL STANDS IDLE. WHATEVER THE PERCENTAGE, WHAT IS  
BEING DONE TO BRING ABOUT FULL UTILIZATION OF OUR PRODUC-  
TIVE POTENTIAL?

10. IS THE "SICK DOLLAR" AND ECONOMIC ACCIDENT OR IS IT,  
AS SOME ALLEGE, ALSO A MACRO-ECONOMIC SCHEME TO SELECTIVELY  
DEVALUE THE DOLLAR TO WIN A TRADE ADVANTAGE?

11. SINCE THE CONGRESS IS TAKING A MORE ACTIVE HAND IN  
FOREIGN POLICY, IT WOULD BE IN ORDER TO HEAR A DISCUSSION  
ABOUT THE PRO AND CON OF THIS DEVELOPMENT.

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## Message Attributes

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Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014